

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, October 19, 2015.

Mayor Jordan called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.

ALSO PRESENT were David Moran, Assistant City Manager, and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in memory of former residents Jeanne McArdle, Jerry Anzulovic and George Cantwell. Ms. Pope then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Ms. Mach requested the minutes of the work session of September 30, 2015, be removed from the agenda. With this change, Ms. Mach moved that the consent agenda be approved. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

Minutes:

Work Session, August 5, 2015
Regular Meeting, August 10, 2015
Work Session, August 12, 2015
Work Session, August 24, 2015
Regular Meeting, September 15, 2015
Work Session, September 21, 2015
Work Session, September 23, 2015
Regular Meeting, September 28, 2015
Work Session, October 7, 2015
Approved as Presented

Resignations from Advisory Groups: Council accepted the resignations of Paula Scott Luddy from the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee and Kimberly Knox from the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability.

Designation of Voting Delegate and Alternate for the National League of Cities Congress of Cities: Council designated Mayor Jordan as the voting delegate, Mayor Pro Tem Davis as the first alternate, and Mr. Putens as the second alternate for the National League of Cities Annual Business Meeting to be held on November 7, 2015, at the Congress of Cities in Nashville, Tennessee.

2015 Community Questionnaire: Council approved the 2015 Community Questionnaire as proposed by staff.

Letter to Governor Hogan – Additional Funding for Maryland Youth Services Bureaus: Council approved sending a letter to Governor Hogan seeking additional funding for Youth Service Bureaus statewide.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: It was moved by Mr. Putens and seconded by Ms. Pope that the agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

Nonprofit Awareness Week Proclamation: Mayor Jordan read a proclamation declaring October 19 – 24, 2015, as Nonprofit Awareness Week in Greenbelt. He recognized the following representatives of the City’s nonprofits in attendance and provided each with a copy of the proclamation: Caitlin McGrath, Friends of the Greenbelt Theater; Barbara Simon, Greenbelt Association for the Visual Arts, Greenbelt Community Development Corporation, and Greenbelt Labor Day Festival; Pam Gregory, Friends of the Greenbelt Museum; Marsha Voight, Help by Phone and Friends of the Greenbelt Library; Mary Lou Williamson, Greenbelt News Review; and Leeann Irwin, Friends of New Deal Café Arts.

Several of the representatives provided information on nonprofit events scheduled during October.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Valerie Orlando, 14-G Ridge, requested speed bumps be placed on Ridge Road between Westway and Southway due to speeding vehicles and school buses, and cars not yielding to pedestrians in the crosswalks in this area. After discussion, Council suggested staff review the request.

Bill Orleans, Greenbelt, asked and was provided answers to questions regarding executive sessions.

John Drago, member of the Arts Advisory Board (AAB), said he was speaking this evening independently of the AAB. He requested Council designate an “Arts Destination” in the City, perhaps the area by the War Memorial at the Center, so artists can gather and offer their arts for sale on a periodic basis. After discussion, Council suggested Mr. Drago discuss the request with the AAB.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Minutes – Work Session of September 30, 2015: Ms. Mach noted that the minutes referenced Mr. Christacos’ statement that Roosevelt Center was 90 years old but the Center is actually only 77 years old. She suggested this reference be omitted from the minutes. Mr. Roberts and Mr. Putens disagreed, noting that Mr. Christacos had made this statement and it should remain in the minutes. Mr. Herling moved that Council approve the work session minutes with the accurate age of the Center reflected (as a staff comment) in the minutes. Ms. Davis seconded. The motion passed 6-1. (Mach)

Minutes – Executive Session of September 16, 2015: Ms. Davis moved that Council approve the minutes of the executive session of the City Council held Wednesday, September 16, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., in Room 201 of the Community Center. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with the General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(3) of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland*, to consult with legal counsel regarding the acquisition of real property.

Ms. Pope seconded.

ROLL CALL:	Ms. Davis	-	yes
	Mr. Herling	-	yes
	Ms. Mach	-	yes

Ms. Pope	-	yes
Mr. Putens	-	yes
Mr. Roberts	-	no
Mayor Jordan	-	yes

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: Mr. Moran reported on the International City Managers Association (ICMA) National Conference in Seattle that he had recently attended with the City Manager. He thanked Council for the opportunity to attend. He also reported on the Health and Wellness Fair scheduled for tomorrow and the Electronics Recycling event scheduled for this weekend.

Cindy Murray, City Clerk, provided an election update.

Gregory Varda, Assistant Recreation Director, announced several upcoming Recreation Department events including FallFest, Costume Contest and Parade, Pumpkin Olympics, Skate Party and Trick or Treating.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

LEGISLATION:

A Resolution to Repeal Resolution Number 2005 and to Provide for the Number of Judges and Clerks of Election, their Rate of Compensation, and the Rate of Compensation to be paid to the Chairperson and Members of the Board of Elections for the 2015 Regular Election

Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Ms. Pope introduced the resolution for second reading and adoption.

Mr. Herling seconded.

ROLL CALL:	Ms. Davis	-	yes
	Mr. Herling	-	yes
	Ms. Mach	-	yes
	Ms. Pope	-	yes
	Mr. Putens	-	yes
	Mr. Roberts	-	yes
	Mayor Jordan	-	yes

The resolution was declared adopted (Resolution No. 2037, Book 8).

PEACE POLE REQUEST: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Donna Hoffmeister explained that the Peace Pole was given to the Greenbelt Peace Committee in May 1987 by a group called the Peace Pole Project in recognition of the Peace Committee's efforts to come to more friendly terms with Soviet citizens. She added that the Prince George's Peace & Justice Coalition (PGPJC) is willing to fund the installation of the Peace Pole at the site of the recent joint bench and tree adoption for the four Greenbelt residents who were active in the PGPJC and other civic activities.

Mr. Moran said the City's Guide to Memorials doesn't address requests to include/install additional items as part of a memorialization request and staff is concerned about establishing this precedent. He suggested that if the request for the Peace Pole installation is approved, it be done as a one-time exception to the City's standard procedures.

Ms. Davis moved that Council approve (as a one-time exception to the City's standards for memorials) the installation of the Peace Pole at the site of the recent joint bench and tree adoption for four Greenbelt residents who were active in the PGJJC and other civic activities. Ms. Mach seconded.

The motion passed 7-0.

Award of Purchase – Public Works Vehicles: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

A. Refuse Truck: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Karl Skaggs, Parks Supervisor, explained that the FY 2016 budget includes \$180,000 for the replacement of a ten year old refuse truck that is two years overdue for replacement. He said the truck being replaced has mechanical problems with the parts in the hopper (cylinder, rollers) due to rust and age and noted that these parts are expensive to replace.

Mr. Skaggs also explained that the City is a member of the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) which is a public agency that enables municipalities to combine national purchasing power through cooperative efforts. Under the NJPA agreement, equipment is vetted and is obtained through competitively solicited purchases. The City is able to purchase a 2016 Freightliner Refuse Truck with a 25 cubic yard commercial rear loader manufactured by Leach from GranTurk Equipment Company for \$165,050.09, per the NJPA Mobile Refuse Collection Vehicle Contract #112014-LEG. Mr. Skaggs added that GranTurk has offered a trade in credit of \$20,000 for a ten year old inoperable refuse truck that was replaced last fiscal year.

Mr. Herling moved that Council approve the purchase of a 2016 Freightliner with a 25 cubic yard commercial rear loader manufactured by Leach from GranTurk Equipment Company at a cost of \$145,050.09 in accord with the NJPA Mobile Refuse Collection Vehicle Contract #112014-LEG. Mr. Putens seconded.

The motion passed 7-0.

B. Backhoe: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Mr. Skaggs explained that the FY 2016 Replacement Fund includes \$100,000 for the replacement of a 1997 Case Backhoe. He said the backhoe being replaced is 18 years old and has extensive corrosion in the operator's station and its outdated pins and bushings cause imprecision with the equipment operation.

Mr. Skaggs said Public Works staff has identified a Case 580 Super N Loader Backhoe available for purchase from Folcomer Equipment Corporation at a cost of \$94,900.20, per NJPA Contract #032515. He explained that this backhoe utilizes a Tier 4 emissions technology that eliminates soot associated with diesel equipment and is nearly emission-free. Mr. Skaggs added that the new backhoe would allow utilization of a stump grinder and other attachments.

Ms. Pope moved that Council approve the purchase of a Case 580 Super N Loader Backhoe from Folcomer Equipment Corporation at a cost of \$94,900.20 in accord with the NJPA Contract #032515. Ms. Davis seconded.

The motion passed 6-1. (Roberts)

Mr. Roberts said he was opposed to purchasing new equipment. He said the old equipment should be repaired.

PROPOSAL TO RELOCATE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Greg Varda, Assistant Director of Recreation Programs, explained that the Recreation Department has developed a proposal to relocate the tree lighting event of the City's annual Festival of Lights from the front lawn of the Community Center to the plaza area of Roosevelt Center. He explained that moving the event would increase the safety of everyone attending, provide a location which is better suited for inclement weather, help promote Roosevelt Center businesses, aid the crafters setting up at the Community Center and provide an opportunity to expand offerings with the theater, restaurants and possibly others. Mr. Varda said the event schedule would remain the same with the potential to add new activities.

Caitlin McGrath, President of the Roosevelt Center Merchants Association (RCMA), said the RCMA was supportive of the relocation of the tree lighting event to the Roosevelt Center.

Ms. Mach moved that Council approve the relocation of the City's tree lighting event of the City's annual Festival of Lights from the front lawn of the Community Center to the plaza area of Roosevelt Center. Ms. Pope seconded.

The motion passed 7-0.

DRAFT STATE CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM, FY 2016-2021: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Terri Hruby, Assistant Planning Director, said that the annual tour meeting for the *Draft FY 2016 – 2021 Maryland Department of Transportation Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP)* is scheduled for October 22, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. at the County Administration Building in Upper Marlboro.

Ms. Davis moved that Council: 1) transmit a letter to Transportation Secretary Pete Rahn, stating the City's strong support for the transit related projects such as the Purple Line, pedestrian and bicycle projects, construction of a full interchange at Greenbelt Metro Station and US 1 improvements; 2) transmit a letter to Prince George's County stating the City's strong support for movement on the MD 193 Greenbelt Road Neighborhood Improvement Project and request that planning funds be allocated for this project. She also requested the MD 193 Greenbelt Road Neighborhood Improvement Project be included on the agenda of the October 22, 2015, Four Cities meeting. Ms. Pope seconded.

Mr. Roberts expressed concern regarding the Capital Beltway widening project that had been discussed at a recent Transportation Planning Board meeting. He suggested the motion be amended to include

the City's opposition of the Capital Beltway widening project. There was no support for the amendment to the motion. Ms. Hruby advised that the Capital Beltway widening project was "on hold."

The motion passed 7-0.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION FOR PY 42: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

In response to a question from Mayor Jordan, Mr. Moran explained that the City is not large enough to receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds directly from the federal government. He noted that the CDBG program overall has been a good source of infrastructure funding for the City. Mayor Jordan expressed concern regarding the County reprogramming of CDBG funding several years ago and suggested a work session be scheduled with the County Executive after the election.

Ms. Mach moved that Council: 1) approve submission of the PY 42 Application for "Breezewood Drive Improvements" as proposed by staff; and 2) authorize the Mayor to execute any PY 42 CDBG Operating Agreements and all other necessary documents in order to accept and implement this grant award. Ms. Pope seconded.

Mr. Orleans asked and received answers to several questions regarding CDBG funding.

Ms. Davis commended Mr. Moran for his leadership and tenacity with the CDBG program (identifying projects, submission of applications, directing of project to completion) over many years. She said because of his good leadership, she is hopeful the City will continue to be successful with CDBG funding in the future.

The motion passed 7-0.

DEADLINE TO REQUEST LOCAL AND BI-COUNTY BILLS: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Mr. Moran advised that the list of "Legislative Suggestions" that staff is maintaining are mostly State issues and not local/bi-county issues.

After discussion, Council had no suggestions for bills to be included that only affect Prince George's County or Prince George's County and Montgomery County combined.

STATE LEGISLATION – VEGETATION MANAGEMENT BY ELECTRIC COMPANIES: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Ms. Davis moved that Council support Delegate James Tarlau's legislation to be introduced during the 2016 Session that would allow counties and municipal corporations to adopt and enforce local laws and regulations regarding vegetation management by electric companies, but with oversight by the Public Service Commission (PSC). Mr. Herling seconded.

The motion passed 7-0.

COUNCIL REPORTS: Councilmembers commented on their attendance at the following events.

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Air Quality Committee Meeting – Ms. Mach
National League of Cities Human Development Committee Conference Call Meeting – Ms. Mach
New Deal Café Party for Cooperatives – Ms. Davis, Ms. Mach and Mr. Herling
Prince George’s County Municipal Association Joint Meeting with Montgomery County Municipal Association – Ms. Davis, Ms. Mach and Mr. Herling
Active Aging Week Lunch and Bingo at Greenbriar – Ms. Davis and Mr. Putens
Roosevelt Center Merchants Association Meeting – Ms. Davis
Dr. Granite’s Retirement Celebration – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Putens, Mr. Herling and Ms. Pope
Greenbelt Community Development Corporation Economic Forum – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Putens, Mr. Herling and Ms. Pope
Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club Forum on Immigration – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis and Mr. Herling
Walk to School Day Event – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Putens, Ms. Mach and Mr. Herling
Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition Candidate Forum – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Putens, Mr. Roberts, Ms. Mach, Mr. Herling and Ms. Pope
Daisy Girl Scout Troop 1161 Meeting – Ms. Davis (as a speaker)
Greenbelt Rhythm and Drum Festival – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis and Mr. Herling
Greenbelt Concert Band Performance at Greenbelt American Legion – Ms. Davis
Appreciation Dinner for City Advisory Group Members – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Putens, Mr. Herling, Ms. Mach and Ms. Pope
Greenbelt Museum’s Rexford Review – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Putens, Mr. Herling, Ms. Mach and Ms. Pope
Shredding Event – Ms. Davis and Mr. Putens
Franklin Park FallFest Event – Mayor Jordan, Ms. Davis, Mr. Putens, Ms. Mach and Ms. Pope
Coop Movies at Greenbelt Theater – Ms. Davis and Ms. Mach

Since this was the last meeting of the 40th Council, Councilmembers reflected on the events of the last two years, thanked their colleagues, staff and residents for the opportunity to serve. Councilmembers wished all the candidates good luck with the upcoming election.

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule.

Executive Session: Ms. Davis moved that Council schedule an Executive Session on Monday, November 16, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., in the Library of the Municipal Building, in accordance with the General Provisions Article §3-305(b) (3) of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland to consult with legal counsel regarding the acquisition of real property.

Ms. Pope seconded.

ROLL CALL:	Ms. Davis	-	yes
	Mr. Herling	-	yes
	Ms. Mach	-	yes
	Ms. Pope	-	yes
	Mr. Putens	-	yes
	Mr. Roberts	-	no

Mayor Jordan - yes

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Mach moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Jordan adjourned the regular meeting of Monday, October 19, 2015, at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Murray
City Clerk

"I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct report of the regular meeting of the City Council of Greenbelt, Maryland, held October 19, 2015."

Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor